Re the Application of:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit:

1775

Examiner:

Turner, A.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS.

P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C

LAKHOTKIN et al.

Serial No.:

09/913,324

Filed:

August 10, 2001

Atty. File No.: 7095HL-1

"TUNGSTEN CARBIDE COATING

AND METHOD FOR ITS

PRODUCTION"

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action dated May 6, 2003 (Paper No. 9), the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement with regard to the above-identified patent application. Generally, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-6, 8-30, 67 and 69 (Group I) and Claims 7, 68, 31-55, 62-65, 56-61, 70-80, 87-89 and 81-86 (Groups II-VI) were distinct inventions. Applicants hereby provisionally elect with traverse to prosecute the claims of Group I in this patent application. However, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the claims of Groups II-VI in a subsequent divisional/continuation application.